

APRIL-JUNE 2012

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

- What are the economic impacts of Pea Ridge NMP?
- News from Eastern National
- Pea Ridge NMP Foundation
- Information from our Maintenance division.
- Fun Quiz
- Seasonal Safety Information

DID YOU KNOW?

- Robert E. Lee's horse was Traveller.
- William Tecumseh Sherman rode Sam.
- George McClellan rode Dan Webster.
- Ulysses S. Grant loved all horses, especially Cincinnati.
- Stonewall Jackson went to battle on Old Sorrel.
- Jeb Stuart's famous rides were on a horse named Virginia.
- Philip Sheridan's horse Rienzi is displayed at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.

The Sentry

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 11

PEA RIDGE NATIONAL MILITARY PARK

'SUPER' THOUGHTS WITH JOHN SCOTT, SUPERINTENDENT

The value of Pea Ridge National Military Park may be more than you think – the rest of the story.

If a person was asked, "What do the words National Park mean to you?" that person might conjure up images of pristine landscapes, wildlife or places where historically significant events happened. But if asked, "Are there any economic values to having a unit of the National Park System in your community?" their answer would probably be, "I don't know."

A recent study entitled *Economic Benefits to Local Communities from National Park Visitation and Payroll, 2010* brings to light that national parks do indeed provide great economic advantages. The study concluded that:

"The National Park System received 281 million recreation visits in 2010. Park visitors spent \$12.13 billion in

local gateway regions (within roughly 60 miles of the park). The contribution of this spending to the national economy is 258,400 jobs, \$9.8 billion in labor income, and \$16.6 billion in value added"



**John Scott, Superintendent
Pea Ridge National Military Park**

National parks are drivers of economic growth, particularly in gateway communities. They stimulate spending and job creation. Taxpayer investments in national parks result in far more than the

obvious recreational and educational dividends.

According to a new economic analysis released by the National Parks Conservation Association, America's National Park System generates more than four dollars in value to the public for every tax dollar invested by the Federal Government. (At Pea Ridge National Military Park it is closer to five dollars for every one tax dollar.)

The Civil War Preservation Trust commissioned a study at thirteen Civil War Battlefield Parks around the country to determine if these battlefield parks provided economic value to the local communities. The findings of this study are documented in - *Blue, Gray and Green: A Battlefield Benefits Guide to Community Leaders*. The Study pointed out the

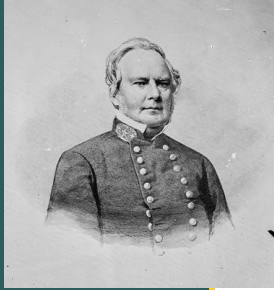
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Cannoneer's Corner

Another hot summer is upon us and even with the heat, visitation is up again this year. We began our summer caravan tours and they have been well received. Caravan tours are available Wednesday through Friday at 10 AM and 2 PM and on Saturday at 10 AM, 1 PM, and 3 PM. The tours take approximately 75 minutes. We will begin our Common Soldier programs and Pea Ridge campaign talks in the next couple of weeks. The Interpretation staff finished our annual NPS survey in June and we believe we are going to have a higher than normal amount of surveys turned in. These surveys provide us with vital information on how we are doing in serving our park visitors.

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SOLDIER STORIES



Major General
Sterling Price,
Missouri State Guard

"Then on the 8th of March came the engagement of Pea-Ridge. General Price with Missourians lined up on the north, the others attacked from the south. It was in the mountains and the ground.—Open wooded and rolling somewhat stony and rough. Early in the morning the men were formed in the line. Skirmishes as little in advance, the order given to advance and the attack was on. I with Dr. F. M. Johnson. Our regimental surgeon, who had selected a ground as a field hospital point.

It was not long before the scattering fire of the advance skirmish line was heard, to be followed or joined in by the enemy picket line. The sound of gun fires gradually drew further away, and increased in volume—mingling with this rattle of musketry the deeper roar of cannon. This continued with intervals of quiet, of longer or shorter duration for the greater part of the day. The Confederates had driven them slowly all day, until they withdrew behind the protection of their fortified

camp. By then the day was well spent. The boys had advanced slowly all day until well toward night—establishing a picket line—dropped farther back and went into camp—a better word would be 'Biv-ouac' for tents, they had none. The loss to our missouri boys in the line front of us was not large..."

From a letter from John Wilson, Missouri State Guard, to Francis Wilson. Born in Boonville, MO March 25, 1840, John Wilson fought with the Missouri State Guard.

News From The Trenches—Maintenance Division

In the last newsletter I made mention of a new team member joining the maintenance team, well that new team member is here! Mrs. Debra Bowers has been on duty now for a few weeks. Debra brings many talents, skills and a wealth of knowledge to the maintenance team. She will be working in the custodial position helping us keep our facilities and surrounding grounds up to Park Service standards. Please join Dean, Aaron and I in welcoming Debra to Pea Ridge NMP, and as you enjoy the fruits of Debra's labor with clean, safe, presentable facilities. Please join us in thanking her for a job well done. I also spoke of the park's new Sustainability Team and the progress we were making. We were not successful in gaining the grant money I spoke of, but no worries we will forge on. Our Foundation has had success in securing the additional funds needed to purchase our recycling trailer. Mr. Crabtree personally hand carried the purchase order to the park and we faxed it in that day. We should be seeing our trailer in the next few months. This trailer will allow us to continue our program with much greater efficiency. Our partnership with Benton County Solid Waste is continuing. Together we have decided to continue offering the community the convenience of having recycling trailers located at the Park open to all in need of the service. Our painting projects are scheduled to kick off on June 18th, we will be starting with the Elkhorn Tavern. Once that structure is completed we will move on to the East Overlook, providing the compliance has been given a green light. Once these projects are completed our hope is to get three to five years life out of the surface treatments and extend the total life of the structures with an active preventive maintenance schedule. Other happenings in the Maintenance Team include development of the Annual Work Plan. The park hosted a team of students from the Facility Managers Leadership Program to assist in developing our Annual Work

Plan. The FMLP program requires their students to do a number of developmental activities, this being one of them. Our team consisted of Kerri Cook, Chris Cook and Dan McCarthy with Jeri Mihalic from the FMLP Training cadre. The work on the AWP continues with planned completion in early July. The maintenance team hosted a dinner for the team and John agreed to take time out of his VERY busy schedule and smoke a few pork butts. Which seeing as we are in Arkansas and in maintenance, and hosting an event for folks "that ain't from around here" pork quickly became known as opossum butt! If you were not able to make it to the BBQ you missed some very fine "opossum butt"! And even finer company with great stories to tell. My thanks go out to all those that made this a very enjoyable and memorable experience for our out of state "Park Service family members." They will remember Pea Ridge NMP and the incredible hospitality they experienced here for many years to come. Until next time, Sheri Nodine, Facility Manager.

THE SENTRY

Elkhorn Tavern
Pea Ridge NMP



Pea Ridge National Military Park Foundation

Greetings from the Pea Ridge National Park Foundation; we hope you are taking advantage of the summer and visiting Pea Ridge National Military Park as often as you can.

As you know we are commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Civil War this year throughout America. Sometimes it is very easy to forget what has happened in the past the tragedy and suffering of so many. It is all "just history"

to so many. When we understand our history it makes us more aware of what is happening around us today. Take some time this year and study Civil War history.

The Pea Ridge National Military Park Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization committed to help educate the public, provide Park improvements (beyond what the Park budget allows), and support the activities of the Pea Ridge National

Military Park. For more information about the foundation and membership visit our website at www.pearidgefoundation.com

You can also find us on Facebook and Twitter.

We invite you to become a member of our foundation.

'Super' Thoughts cont...

(Continued from page 1)

following three economic trends:

Every Civil War Battlefield Park creates jobs in the community, on average one job for every 702 visitors.

Each visitor paid approximately \$5.84 in state tax and \$2.94 in local government revenues.

On average, each Civil War Battlefield visitor spent \$51.58 per day in the community.

While Pea Ridge was not included in this study using the above trends, here is how Pea Ridge National Military Park stacked up in 2011 when our visitation was 128,385 visitors.

183 jobs in the community were created.

\$749,768 was generated in Arkansas State Tax and \$377,452 in local government revenues.

The park generated \$6,622,098 in the local economy.

In 2011 the park's budget was \$1,259,000. So for every \$1 of federal money spent on the park, the park returned \$5.26 into the community.

Thus, for every \$1.00 in federal money the Park brought \$5.26 into the local community.

While this park was established by Congress not to generate revenue for the local community but rather to preserve unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the park for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations, I am happy to tell you that we are doing both.

"To make a reputation and serve my country conspicuously... or fail."
Earl Van Dorn

SINGING SEAMSTRESS

For all of you living history folks out there, I want to give you a few helpful tips on ways to clean your living history clothing. If you have a shirt, petticoat or chemise that has those pesky perspiration stains; just put it into a medium wash cycle and add 1/3 cup of your detergent, 1 cup of baking soda, 1 cup of oxy clean or the like, and 1/4 cup of color-safe-bleach. One can wash your wool uniform in the washing machine, just use COLD water and 1 cup of for-darks-woolite and let it air dry. If you prefer to clean your uniform the "authentic" way, get a mist spray bottle and a bottle of cheap gin. The gin is for putting in the spray bottle and not for drinking, mind you. Spray the gin on the outside of the uniform and hang up in a humidity free room for two or three days. Then turn the uniform inside out and repeat. When the gin evaporates, it will take away the bad smells with it. No lady likes a stinky soldier! If you have any questions on cleaning living history items just email me at sirena_evans@nps.gov. I would be happy to help.



Park Guide, Sirena Evans

"The establishment of the National Park Service is justified by considerations of good administration, of the value of natural beauty as a National asset, and of the effectiveness of outdoor life and recreation in the production of good citizenship."

Theodore Roosevelt

'The Outlook'

February 3, 1912

Trivia

President Abraham Lincoln brought his wife and son Tad along when he visited the army. Tad was ecstatic when he saw real Rebel soldiers across the Rappahannock River. One enemy soldier from across the river recognized the tall president in his stovepipe hat. He took off his own hat and bowed.



Resource Management

June was an extremely busy month for the Resource Management Division. The last couple of weeks we have had numerous Boys and Girls Club members working on various projects. Those projects ranged from planting seed in areas which previously served as burn piles, maintenance on the historic worm rail fence, and planting trees in the apple orchard. As the summer progresses, you will continue to see waves of blue Boys and Girls Club busses pouring into the park and working on different projects.

We currently still have the WUI tree thinning contract going on which will end in July. A new one should be starting in September or October.

With record high temps and below normal rainfall we have also been preparing for high fire danger. At this time we are currently in a step-up situation with intentions to move into severity by the first to middle of July. At that time we are planning on having the S-130 and S-190 training for any staff members that are interested. If you are interested, please check with your supervisor for their approval and notify someone on our staff of your interest. Thank you for supporting the Fantabulous Resource Management Division.

Nolan Moore, Biologist

Civil War IQ

Test your knowledge of general Civil War history, facts and figures. Answers can be found on the last page of this newsletter.

1. At the start of the war, the north had how many people?

- ☐ 15 million
☐ 22 million
☐ 50 million

2. The first major battle of the Civil War was:

- ☐ Bull Run/Manassas
☐ Vicksburg
☐ Wilson's Creek

3. While the North had over 23,000 miles of railroad to transport goods, the South had only ____ miles.

- ☐ 20,000
☐ 9,000
☐ 3,000

4. It is estimated that what percentage of Civil War soldiers were less than 18 years old?

- ☐ 2%
☐ 5%
☐ 7%

5. What state saw the highest number of battles?

- ☐ Tennessee
☐ Missouri
☐ Virginia

6. Andersonville was a Confederate prison for Union soldiers. There were no barracks, so prisoners suffered through cold winter rains and scorching summer heat with no shelter. About ____ of the 45,000 prisoners at Andersonville died in camp.

- ☐ 1/4
☐ 1/3
☐ 1/2

Trivia:

The following are a few "firsts" created during the American Civil War:

- 1st time a railroad was used to transport troops.
- 1st Congressional Medal of Honor given twice, given to a woman as a doctor.
- 1st "modern" war to use new technologies such as telegraphy, photography, balloon observation, trenches, wire entanglements, repeating rifles, breech/padding rifles.

Reveille is a bugle call that was used to wake up sleeping soldiers at sunrise. The call was sounded sometime between 4:45-6:00 in the morning. When the last note played, the flag was raised, a gunshot was fired, and the soldiers had to be dressed and ready for roll call.

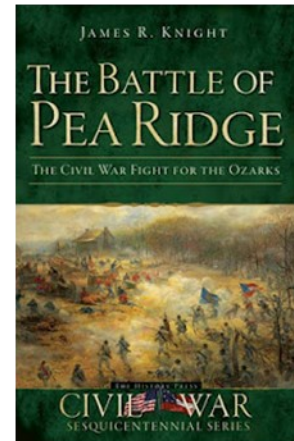
National Park Service



Shop Talk

What's New?

Now available at the Pea Ridge National Military Park store, *The Battle of Pea Ridge: The Civil War Fight for the Ozarks* by James R. Knight. This book is part of a special Civil War Sesquicentennial Series and provides a concise account of the events leading up to and during the Battle of Pea Ridge, along with troop movement maps and brief biographies of the commanding officers. 160 pages \$19.99



"Suddenly, something like a tremendous peal of thunder opened all along our front, and a ridge of fire and smoke appeared close before us, and the trees round us and over our heads rattled with bullets as if in a heavy hail storm." William Watson, Third Louisiana, CSA

Volunteer

Some of our VIP's are on temporary hiatus right now but should return this fall. Bob Fisk took a seasonal job at Mesa Verde and according to his postcard he is enjoying himself even through the haze of forest fires. We do have two new VIP's on board, Bill Hickman has been working for the last couple of months in the visitor center and is ready to tackle the tavern and possibly tours as well. Alex (Alexis) Keene has signed on board and will begin working soon. I have received a couple of responses for people interested in joining the cannon crew. I will do my best to get a training day set up soon for those who are interested. We are also looking for a

couple of people interested in volunteering for front desk duty one day a week, and an experienced birder to lead monthly bird watching hikes. If you are interested, please call me at 479-451-8122 x 226 or email troy_banzhaf@nps.gov.

Cannoneer's Corner cont...

(Continued from page 1)

Upcoming events include the NPS and Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission co-sponsored symposium, "An Empire in Extent", August 9-11 in Fayetteville. More information on the symposium can be found at www.arkansascivilwar150.com. The park will host an exciting exhibit September 3 through October 1 enti-

tled *Looking at Lincoln: Political Cartoons from the Civil War Era*. This is a traveling exhibit created by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. Plans are also currently in the works to bring General Samuel R Curtis's epaulettes and sash to the park for display sometime this fall/winter so stay tuned. Please note that starting July 15, the visitor center hours will now be 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM.

Brigadier General Franz Sigel, U.S.A.





National Park Service

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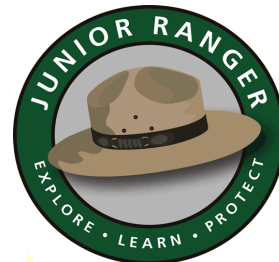
Website: www.nps.gov/peri

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

Civil War IQ Answer Key

1. 22 Million
2. Bull Run/Manassas
3. 9,000
4. 5%
5. Virginia
6. 1/3

BECOME A JUNIOR
RANGER TODAY



SAFETY TIPS

Since we are in the thick of the summer season, I thought it would be good to share the following video with everyone. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_4jgUcxMezM Summertime includes swimming, lawn mowing, enjoying time outside with family and friends, and many other outside activities that we love. But there is one inherent danger that lurks during this season....the sun. Please watch this video and be aware of the dangers that come with outside activities and the sun. Statistics show that melanoma is the most common form of cancer for young adults 25-29 years old and the second most common form of cancer for adolescents and young adults 15-29 years old (**more than 1/3 of our staff fall in this age group**).

According to the American Cancer Society, the best way to prevent skin cancer is to reduce your exposure to sunlight. Ultraviolet light is most intense between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., so try to avoid sun exposure during these hours. Protect the skin by wearing hats, long-sleeved shirts, long skirts, or pants. Other ways to help are:

- Apply high-quality sunscreens with sun protection factor (SPF) ratings of at least 15, even when you are only going outdoors for a short time.
- Apply a large amount of sunscreen on all exposed areas, including ears and feet.
- Look for sunscreens that block both UVA and UVB light.
- Use a waterproof formula.
- Apply sunscreen at least 30 minutes before going outside, and reapply it frequently, especially after swimming.
Use sunscreen in winter, too. Protect yourself even on cloudy days.

Other important facts to help you avoid too much sun exposure:

- Avoid surfaces that reflect light more, such as water, sand, concrete, and white-painted areas.
- The dangers are greater closer to the start of summer.
- Skin burns faster at higher altitudes.
- Avoid sun lamps, tanning beds, and tanning salons.

The American Cancer Society also recommends professional skin examinations every year for people older than 40, and every 3 years for people ages 20 - 40.

You should also examine your skin once a month, using a mirror to check hard-to-see places. Call your doctor if you notice any changes.

Kelsi Herrington, Administrative Assistant